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Friedens Evangelical and Reformed Church  
St. Charles vicinity  
St. Charles County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1594

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FRIEDENS EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

HABS No. MO-1594

Location: St. Charles vicinity, St. Charles County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photograph was taken:

Built ca. 1864. Inscribed stone above entrance in steeple gives date of 1867, but it is possible that the steeple was a later addition. This brick church replaced an earlier stone church, forty by twenty-five feet, completed shortly before 1850 and furnished with an organ.

Friedens Church, near St. Charles, was established by Hermann Garlichs (1807-1865), the son of a wealthy Bremen merchant, who emigrated to this county with a group of Westphalians in the spring of 1833 [See, Hermann Garlichs House (Evangelical Parsonage), MO-1586 and St. John's Evangelical Church School, MO-1587]. This church, and the Church at Femme Osage, St. Charles County, were the first two Evangelical churches organized in Missouri.

The design of this brick church follows very closely the Gothic Revival design used in many of the Evangelical Churches built throughout Missouri during the latter 1860s and 1870s. It may have originated with some of the German-trained architects in St. Louis.

A photograph of the interior of this church, dated 1864, but probably made during the 1890s and reproduced in Friedens United Church of Christ, St. Charles, Missouri, the One Hundred Twenty-Fifth Anniversary, (1959), shows a high pulpit, with an exposed stairway. This type of pulpit was commonly used in the German churches through this area. The pulpit in the Femme Osage church built in 1840 is described as having been "...made by a local cabinet maker. It was octagonal in shape and spacious. It was made of solid walnut. It rested on a pedestal which had the shape of an X. Over the pulpit was a sounding board of octagonal shape. The stairway leading to the pulpit was narrow, a severe test for a nervous minister...."

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

William G. Bek, "The Followers of Duden...Herman Garlichs-Theologian," Missouri Historical Review, 40.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the [REDACTED] records for MO-1800.